

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A display device that displays an image based on image data supplied from a center device,

the display device comprising:

receiving means for receiving data from the center device; and

visual disturbance hiding means that hides disturbance in the image on account of image switching, when the display device obtains, via the receiving means, switching-related data indicating information with regard to the image switching of the image data by the center device, the switching-related data being transmitted in a case where the center device performs the image switching.

2. (previously presented) The display device as defined in claim 1, wherein, the switching-related data is transmitted when the center device completes the image switching.

3. (original) The display device as defined in claim 1, wherein, a period during which the visual disturbance hiding means hides the disturbance is set in accordance with a delay time from receipt of the image data to display of the image.

4. (previously presented) The display device as defined in claim 1, wherein the image data is encoded data, the display device further comprising:

decoding means that decodes the image data having been encoded,

a period during which the visual disturbance hiding means hides the disturbance being set in accordance with a period required for decoding the image data by the decoding means.

5. (original) The display device as defined in claim 1, wherein, the visual disturbance hiding means starts to hide the disturbance when a delay time from receipt of the image data to display of the image elapses from a time point of acquiring the switching-related data.

6. (previously presented) The display device as defined in claim 5, wherein, the image data is encoded data, the display device further comprising:

decoding means for decoding the image data having been encoded,

the visual disturbance hiding means starting to hide the disturbance when a certain time elapses from a time point of acquiring the switching-related data, the certain time being shorter than the delay time by a time required for decoding the image data by the decoding means.

7. (previously presented) A display device that displays an image based on image data supplied from a center device,

the image data being encoded by the center device,

the display device comprising:

receiving means for receiving data from the center device;

decoding means for decoding the image data having been encoded; and

visual disturbance hiding means that hides disturbance of the image on account of image switching of the image data by the center device, and

the visual disturbance hiding means determining when to stop hiding the disturbance, in accordance with a time point at which the display device receives, via the receiving means, a first stamp which is generated when the image data switched by the center device is encoded and which indicates time information for synchronizing encoding performed by the center device with decoding performed by the decoding means.

8. (original) The display device as defined in claim 7, wherein, a time when the visual disturbance hiding means stops hiding the disturbance is determined in accordance with (i) a time point of acquiring the first time stamp and (ii) a second time stamp indicating when the decoding means starts to decode the image data.

9. (currently amended) The display device as defined in claim 1 ~~or 7~~, wherein, the visual disturbance hiding means hides the disturbance of the image by stopping displaying the image.

10. (currently amended) The display device as defined in claim 1 ~~or 7~~, further comprising:

transmission means for transmitting data to the center device; and
switching command transmission control means for controlling and causing the transmission means to send, to the center device, switching demand data that demands switching of the image data.

11. (previously presented) A center device that transmits image data to a display device in order to display an image on the display device,

the center device comprising:

transmission means for transmitting data to the display device;

image switching means for switching the image data to be transmitted; and

switching-related data transmission control means that, when the image switching means performs image switching so as to switch the image data, obtains switching-related data indicating information regarding the image switching, and controls and causes the transmission means to transmit the obtained switching-related data to the display device, being independently of the image data.

12. (previously presented) The center device as defined in claim 11, wherein, the switching-related data is transmitted when the image switching means completes the image switching.

13. (original) The center device as defined in claim 11, further comprising encoding means for encoding the image data,

the transmission means transmitting, to the display device, the image data encoded by the encoding means.

14. (previously presented) A center device that transmits image data to a display device in order to display an image on the display device,

the center device comprising:

transmission means for transmitting data to the display device;

image switching means for switching the image data to be transmitted;

encoding means for encoding the image data; and

time stamp transmission control means that controls and causes the transmission means to

- (i) obtain a first time stamp which is generated when the encoding means encodes the image data switched by the image switching means and which indicates time information for synchronizing encoding performed by the encoding means with decoding performed by the display device, and
- (ii) transmit the obtained first time stamp to the display device.

15. (currently amended) The center device as defined in claim 11 ~~or 14~~, further comprising:

receiving means for receiving data from the display device;

switching demand acquiring means for acquiring, via the receiving means, switching demand data that demands switching of the image data; and

image switching control means for controlling and causing the image switching means to switch the image data in accordance with the switching demand data obtained by the switching demand acquiring means.

16. (currently amended) The center device as defined in claim 11 ~~or 14~~, wherein, the image switching means is a tuner for selecting image data of being currently broadcast.

17. (currently amended) The center device as defined in claim 11 ~~or 14~~, wherein, the image switching means is a selector that selects one of sets of image data supplied from outside.

18. (currently amended) An image display system, wherein the center device defined in ~~any one of claims 11-17~~ claim 11 sends the image data to the display device, ~~defined in any one of claims 1-10~~ and the display device displays an image based on the image data.

19. (original) The image display system as defined in claim 18, wherein, the display device is attachable to the center device.

20. (previously presented) A display device control method for controlling a display device that displays an image based on image data supplied from a center device,
the display device including receiving means that receives data from the center device,
the method comprising the step of:
when the display device obtains, via the receiving means, switching-related data indicating information which is transmitted when the center device performs image switching of the image data, hiding visual disturbance as a result of the image switching, the switching-related data being transmitted in a case where the center device performs the image switching.

21. (previously presented) A display device control method for controlling a display device that displays an image based on image data supplied from a center device,
the image data being encoded by the center device,

the display device including:
receiving means for receiving data from the center device; and
decoding means for decoding the image data having been encoded,
the method comprising the steps of:
hiding disturbance of the image, which is caused by image switching of the image data by
the center device; and
determining a time to stop hiding the disturbance, based on a time when the display
device obtains, via the receiving means, a first time stamp which is generated when the image
data switched by the image switching means is encoded and which indicates time information for
synchronizing encoding performed by the center device with decoding performed by the
decoding means.

22. (previously presented) A center device control method for controlling a center device
that sends image data to a display device in order to display an image on the display device,
the center device including: transmission means for transmitting data to the display
device; and image switching means for switching the image data to be transmitted,
the method comprising the step of:
when image switching of the image data by the image switching means is performed,
controlling and causing the transmission means to obtain switching-related data indicating
information regarding the image switching, and to transmit the obtained switching-related data to
the display device, being independently of the image data.

23. (previously presented) A center device control method for controlling a center device that transmits image data to a display device in order to display an image on the display device, the center device including:

transmission means for transmitting data to the display device;

image switching means for switching the image data to be transmitted; and

encoding means for encoding the image data,

the method comprising the step of:

controlling and causing the transmission means to obtain a first time stamp which is generated when the encoding means encodes the image data switched by the image switching means and which indicates time information for synchronizing encoding performed by the center device with decoding performed by the decoding means.

24. (currently amended) A display device control program for operating the display device defined in ~~any one of claims 1-10~~ claim 1, the display device control program causing a computer to function as the receiving means, the visual disturbance hiding means, and the decoding means.

25. (currently amended) A center device control program for operating the center device defined in ~~any one of claims 11-17~~ claim 11, the center device control program causing a computer to function as the transmission means, the image switching means, the switching-related data transmission control means, the encoding means, the time stamp transmission control means, the switching demand acquiring means, and the image switching control means.

26. (currently amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing either the display device control program defined in claim 24 and/or the center device control program ~~defined in claim 25.~~